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The Long Island FISHERMAN

JANUARY 25th, ISSUE NO. 4, 1973

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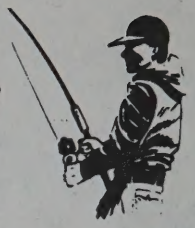

VOL. 8, NO. 4 JANUARY 25, 1973

CONTENTS

CHARTER BOAT	Peter J. Fredericksen	4
CHUM LINES		7
FLORIDA'S FRESH WATER	Vlad Evanoff	8
ONE SURFMAN'S MONTAUK	Ted Shaine	10
PARTY BOAT BLUES	Robert Schaefer	12
CUSTOM ROD BUILDING	Dick Mermon	16
BOATING	Dale Brous	17
MORE PLUG MAKING	Vince Guaglianone	18
SAVING FISH	Fred Guardineer	22

PUBLISHER, EDITOR: *Rich Reina*

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: *Vince Guaglianone*

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER: *Mike Zarrella*

ADVERTISING MANAGER: *Stu Miller*

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FRONT PAGE PHOTO

". . . a grey mist on the sea's face
and a grey dawn breaking."
From SEA FEVER, by Masefield

WHAT LONG ISLAND NEEDS NOW

Even though these are the days and the months when peace is at hand, it is good to talk about the only war that really counts. Such a war-council is good now, providing that after it we really go into battle . . .

While billions of dollars can go to the moon, earth-children in major cities are forced to grow up where trees can no longer grow. And these children - though some reside near one of the greatest rivers in the world - they can scarcely imagine how the origin of water is actually not a pipe . . .

In major cities that stain the sea, there are closed-in elderly folk in increasing numbers who can only afford catfood for their daily minimum protein requirement . . .

In the ever-widening 'land-development' around core-rotting cities, working people are at the mercy of (for one thing) brownouts and blackouts - because in fact Utilities cannot both effectively serve the public, and make a great profit at doing so . . . En route to work the same wage-earners leave at home their families, more certain that these shall receive a daily dosage of jet-fuel and mind-shattering noise, than that wages brought home shall suffice for quality food the next week . . .

There is federal money to finance the exploration for oil offshore of Long Island this year, but no money to encourage the development of new and ecologically-valid sources of power for lighting, and for heat, and even for vehicular transportation. Cheap, and really clean fuel. This is "not feasible" for the nation that went to the dead moon?

There will be money to span Long Island Sound with bridges, but no money to keep forever wild the last and unique marshes of the eastern seaboard; the marshes that are the womb of all sea-life.

It must be because peace is at hand, that Moscow is still allowed to rape the world's richest food-fish schools 12 miles offshore, and then sell near half the processed fish back to the people of the United States, some of whose sons died fighting "the Communist enemy" in the Asian war.

Perhaps it was because peace was to be at hand that the Wheat Deal was possible, by which Soviet big businessmen were able to seduce their comatose American counterparts - and the American public absorbs the cost in the current price of bread. But there is still no money to change and develop methods of farming so that the ocean and human flesh are not polluted by unseen pesticide chemicals and by mercury.

There is money to make signs telling John Doe: "People Start Pollution. People Can Stop It." But there is no money to effectively prosecute the real polluters, and scientifically diminish the 'inevitability' of industrial polluting.

Second-job legislators can vote themselves salary-raises to maintain their life-style in face of the ever-rising cost of living: but there is no money to encourage new careers in conservation; ecological agriculture; forestry; ecological enforcement; oceanography; ecological city-planning - the list is nearly endless of such meaningful and vital careers that are not part of the sturdy rise of joblessness in the world's richest nation.

Can you wonder why Long Island is under seige? And do you grasp the elusive nature of this most formidable enemy? He does not belong to a single nation, but to many. He has a part of himself inside our heads - though there are some whose hearts as well are his home-bases. And since he is not really one person: multiple targets are at once attacked; though without any real overall plan.

Remember this when you go out willy-nilly to save the striped bass; and then to save the river; and then to save the marshes; and then to save the bays; and then to save the shores; and then the offshore fisheries; and then . . .

What Long Island needs is a single Congress of Long Islanders For Ecology. And not formed prematurely or slipshod; nor in elitist fashion. Every sport-club becoming concerned, must send a representative; every local community group that has tried to save its locale; every different legal and scientific organization in the Metropolitan area that has fought for ecology, must join together to form this Association. To watchdog the enemy: at least from Montauk to the Delaware, from North Jersey to Connecticut; to monitor his movements; to task-force and carry the battle to him first, for a change.

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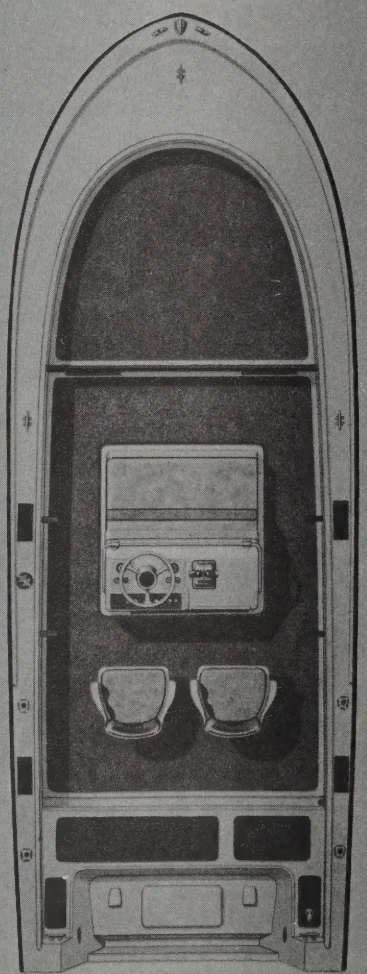

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HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR CHARTER TRIP

by PETER J. FREDERIKSEN

TUNA, albacore, marlin, slammer bluefish. Sound good? That is what the charter boat boys enjoy. And if you would like to cash in on the action, you should give it a try.

Charter boat fishing is a bit different from other forms of boat angling. The charter boat captain offers to his customers the opportunity to fish aboard a sportfishing machine with all the needed tackle and an experienced mate to work the cockpit.

One noticeable difference between the charter and party boat packets is that unlike the latter, the former requires the use of reservations. The reservation is required because the boat will be reserved for you and your party. It is best to make the reservations well in advance of the date you desire. The reason for this is to assure you of getting that particular date. Since a charter boat captain is likely to have several steady customers, the calendar can fill up fast. In fact, some charter boats are booked solid even before the season begins.

The weekend dates seem to go the fastest, especially in areas that are popular with anglers. Interestingly, quite often the fishing on weekends is slightly inferior to the rest of the week because the weekends inevitably bring out the mosquito fleet, the small, privately owned and operated boats that sometimes manage to get in the way of the professional fisherman.

This is another reason for chartering. You not only get the boat for the day but the captain's experience as well. And that comes in handy when fishing conditions get crowded.

Since most charter boat advertisements in the papers and magazines list phone numbers, it is an easy matter to take care of the details with a simple phone call. Of course, if you live nearby the dock it is most advantageous to take care of the arrangements in person. This way you can check out the boat personally before deciding to book it.

The actual selection of a particular boat should be based on a few observations. The charter boat business is not unlike other businesses. Some captains are nicer to sail with than others and for this reason some captains sail a good deal more trips than others. While a spanking, flawless paint job may look tantalizing, it could possibly indicate that the boat sails very little, a reflection upon the personnel involved in the operation.

Granted, some captains do not care to sail everyday so base your observations on a time factor. If it is late in the season and the charter boat looks like it has seen little action, it probably hasn't. Do not be deceived. You want to catch fish not looks.

A boat that sports a few nicks here, a couple of paint chips there, and an overall appearance of wear - yet it is clean: this is a good indication that the boat has seen a lot of fishing and is well taken care of by a meticulous mate. A boat like this is worth looking into.

If you manage to get down to the dock in the afternoon as the boats are pulling in, judge the charter boat by the passengers rather than the size of the fish-pile that the mate builds on the dock. If the people seem happy and satisfied, the captain is doing something right and it would be worth your while to inquire about the boat.

As mentioned above, the reservations should be made as early as possible. However, many times a good boat will become available at the last minute because of a cancelation. For this reason you might care to leave your phone number with the captain of a particular boat in case this situation develops. Skippers are more than willing to call if the original party cancels.

Whether you make the reservation by phone, mail or in person, tell the captain what type of fishing you are most interested in and when you want to go. This way he can advise you if it might be best to sail at a date different from the one you've planned. Fishing is the captain's business so he will be able to tell you the best time to fish for the species you want.

If the captain has the date you want, he will probably request a deposit. Deposits will vary, but $35 for a $135 charter fee is average. The balance is usually paid upon returning to the dock.

The charter boat field is tough so naturally the captain wants to sail as much as possible. A professional skipper cannot afford to miss any days during the season due to parties that fail to show up. In the event you are unable to keep the date, inform the captain immediately. At least he can try and book another party and salvage the day.

It is a good idea to give the captain a call a day or two before the trip. Any last minute questions you may have can be cleared up here. If you were contemplating taking along your own special rod or lures, ask the captain then. Charter boats supply the

Continued on Pg. 6

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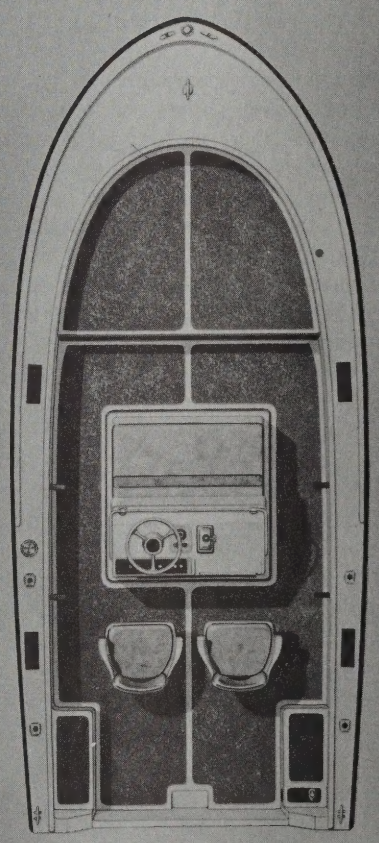

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needed tackle so there is no necessity to bring your own. You will find, however, that most charter boat tackle is a bit on the heavy side only because it is used constantly everyday. Light tackle just could not handle the strain.

You should also ask the captain what time he wants to leave. Fishing conditions can change daily and the captain will keep you informed to let you know the best departure time. If you would rather sleep an extra forty winks, tell him then.

If you are the head of the party, make sure the rest of the group knows where and how to get to the boat. A little preparation can save you from waiting for a lost companion to show up.

When the eventful day arrives, get down to the dock about fifteen minutes before the scheduled sailing time. You probably didn't sleep too well the night before but don't let it bother you. After all, it is hard to sleep when thoughts of screeching drags, melting monofilament and beautifully arc-shaped fiberglass rods permeate the brain. Leave yourself enough time to eat some breakfast and you might be doing yourself a favor if you skip the coffee. Sometimes the acid in the coffee can reek havoc with the stomach mechanism if the seas begin to get sloppy.

If rough water in general affects the stomach, take a few precautions. Motion sickness pills work only if you give them a chance. They have to be taken before you sail not when you feel the queasiness. If the boat is diesel powered, keep away from the stern. Diesel exhaust is heavy and it stinks. Avoid it like the plague, especially on an overcast or foggy day when the air movement is minimal.

A charter boat mate does the chores while the anglers fish in comfort.

When you get down to the boat, place your gear on the dock. There are several chores the mate must perform before the boat is ready to be boarded. He will stow your gear and help you aboard as soon as he is finished.

Get to know the mate immediately. You will be with him in the cockpit all day so take the time to introduce yourself. If you have any questions or don't see something, ask him. He wants you to have an enjoyable trip too.

Mates work for tips and they work hard for them. Just remember, while you're fishing, he is working unhooking your fish, putting your line back into the water, changing lures, perhaps running down below to grab you a beer. He cleans your fish, bags them and brings them to your car. Then he has to clean the boat for the next trip just as he cleaned it the previous afternoon for you. Tips vary but 10-15% of the charter fee is decent.

Don't forget to bring along a pair of polaroid sunglasses to cut down the glare, sun-tan lotion, a camera and extra film and for your own safety, wear deck shoes or boating sneakers.

Remember to bring food and drink. Though it is not mandatory, it is a nice gesture to offer the captain and mate a sandwich and cool drink. If the forecast calls for showers, throw in some foul-weather gear. It does not take up much room and it is worth its weight in gold if you happen to need it. You might also care to take along some extra clothing. After the trip is over, you can change into dry and comfortable apparel for the ride back home.

And one last reminder. If the distaff member of the household and the children enjoy fishing, it would be a worthwhile experience to take a trip with them. Charter boats can accommodate women and children with no problem and they probably would enjoy it.

I remember one day we sailed with a boatload of youngsters and happened to run into a school of snapper bluefish. The blues ran about a pound a piece but for the little anglers they were pure gold. The laughing, the fun, the gleeful expressions, the tangles, it is something you can't forget. And the kids don't either.

Although the trip is over when the captain backs the boat into the slip, the events of the day will remain with pictures and happy memories. And if you remember that a successful charter trip is partially up to you, then every time you look at the fish gracing your dinner plate the thought of singing drags and buckling rods will accompany each mouthful.

Singing drags and buckling rods are the results of careful planning.

CHUM LINES

MULTIPLE ENTHUSIASMS

To The Editors:

In the Dec. 21 issue of the Long Island Fisherman, Shore Lines, Mr. Charlie Gauss made some kind of a reference to flounder and porgie fishermen as "not real fishing enthusiasts" and recommends greater coverage of "surf fishing."

Perhaps I have the wrong impression of what your paper's intentions are? The Long Island Fisherman has been purchased by members of our club because it has been the most informative of all the fishing publications that deal with general fishing news.

We have in our club, members who participate in surf-fishing, rowboat fishing, open boat fishing, and charter boat fishing. On our chartered trips we are unable to satisfy each member as to his preference of fishing. We have "striper swipers" - "bluefish bangers" - "cod dunkers" - "tuna tipplers" - as well as those who prefer fluke, flounders, blackfish, mackerel, porgies, etc. We have been in existence for 15 years primarily because of a common interest in fishing - any type. We attempt to provide as much variety as possible to give each member a taste of his specialty at the particular season.

On some trips we do manage to "haul" in more fish than needed, but excess is always distributed to friends of the club for food purposes.

Many of us have spent time "jetty jockeying" for stripers and miserable nights trolling for bass and blues. (I agree with Mr. Gauss that this is a more demanding type of fishing.) I don't believe, however, that those who enjoy a day of porgy or flounder fishing are not "real fishing enthusiasts." I think we should keep in mind that not all of the readers of your paper are "surfmen." They are fishermen none the less.

All of us should be united in the fight against pollution - conservation - initiation of legislation for the common interest of all fishermen. This includes the "striped bass" bill as well as the 200 mile fishing limit for commercial fishing of foreign countries.

In my opinion the Long Island Fisherman has been instrumental in helping us in this area. It has also satisfied a need for all of us for an excellent communication of topical general fishing news. If the paper becomes too specialized in "surf fishing" material, it will lose the other readers. If it specializes in the other areas, it will lose the surf men.

In conclusion, I as well as all of our club members enjoy the surf fishing news and wish to see it as part of the coverage. Even the so called "not real fishing enthusiasts" realize that it is fishing - and that is what it is all about.

Finally to Mr. Gauss I wish you all the success for the coming year, and assure you that I am 100% for the striped bass legislation and the 200 mile limit - for all of us.

Sincerely,
Jim Berger
Doghouse Fishing Club
Bronx, N.Y.

Charlie Gauss was only 'shore linin' with Vince re their mutual surf-nutism. It's the way surfnuts please each other. But if you look in L.I.F.'s issue No. 24, June, 1972, you'll find an article by Stu Bad-Winds Miller in which Stu - an all-around fisherman, describes an episode when he and Vince (on a boat in those days years ago) caught and kept about 100 flounders!

It is our experience that most sportfishermen see to it that their large-number catches end up on the table(s). This is especially so with such food-species as flounder, cod, and (yes Charlie Gauss) porgies.

A basis for suspicion exists with such as the pelagic species that are difficult to trim and cart for the table. Also such species as the mackerel, which spoil easily (though not so much in cold weather). Keeping 180 tinker macks in the sun all day, is suspect.

Although there are a few rotten apples discovered from time-to-time, we cannot assume that the guys with food-fish caught by the dozen are such overkilling wasters.

Continued on Pg. 25

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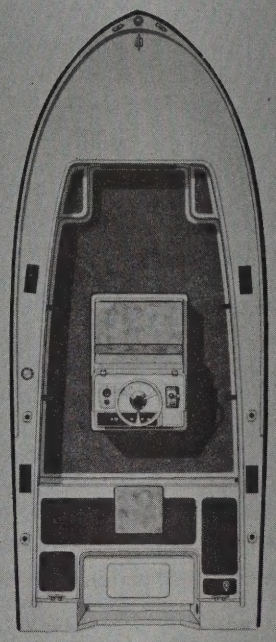

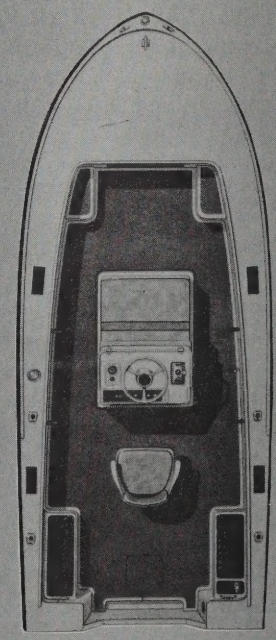

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Florida's Fresh Water Fishing

by VLAD EVANOFF

Florida News Bureau Photo

You can have action with black bass in Florida even during the winter months with fishing improving toward spring.

AT THIS TIME OF YEAR Florida has some of the best fresh-water fishing in the nation. When anglers up north are fishing through holes in the ice, Florida fishermen are out in small boats or fishing from shore in short sleeves, casting lures for black bass and other fish. Fresh-water fishing can be very good during the winter months and it gets even better toward spring.

The most popular fish caught in Florida's fresh-waters is their kind of large-mouth bass which is a subspecies of the type found in northern waters. The differences in appearance are very slight but the Florida bass grows bigger than the northern one, mainly because of the year-round feeding season and the abundance of food. Up north if you catch a 5 or 6 pound large-mouth you have a trophy but down in Florida they don't get excited until a bass passes the 10-pound mark. Each year they catch some bass going 12 to 15 pounds. They have been caught up to 20 pounds or slightly more in weight.

Large-mouth bass are found in large lakes, small lakes, ponds, rivers and canals in Florida. Most of the best known waters have fishing camps or stations where you can launch a boat or rent one and even hire a guide. Hiring a guide is a good idea, especially if you are fishing big lakes or the Everglades country for the first time. Or if you are down only for a short period and haven't got time to explore a body of water on your own.

You can use a regular fresh-water spinning rod and reel filled with 6 to 10 pound test line for Florida bass. The somewhat stiffer, heavier rods and stronger lines are best when fishing in the weeds for big fish. A bait-casting outfit with lines testing from 15 to 25 pounds are preferred by most expert bass anglers going after the big ones in heavy weeds.

They also prefer to use lures such as weedless spoons with pork rind or pork frogs or by adding plastic worms to the spoons. Plastic worms alone in black, blue, purple, red or natural colors are also very effective for the bass. They'll also hit top-water and underwater plugs. But the top-water stuff is usually better later on in the spring. During the winter months the bass are often deep and underwater lures are most productive. Live shiners fished under a float also take a lot of Florida bass.

Another very popular fresh-water fish caught in many Florida lakes, rivers and canals is the crappie, more often called "speckled perch" or just plain "speck" throughout the state. The winter months are the best months for them and you'll see thousands of anglers out in boats, on bridges or along shore fishing for them. They bite best on tiny minnows fished a few feet below the surface. But they'll also hit jigs, darts and flies.

But by far the most popular panfish in Florida waters is the bluegill sunfish, commonly called "Bream" or "Brim" there. They are plentiful in most lakes, ponds, rivers and canals throughout the state. You'll see men, women and kids fishing for them with cane poles or glass poles from shore and boats. They bite best on worms, but will also take tiny panfish bugs or flies used with a fly rod.

Florida also has four kinds of catfish and these can be caught in lakes, rivers and canals fishing with cut fish or stink baits or other catfish baits

fished on the bottom.

Other fresh-water fish often caught in Florida waters include the pickerel, shellcracker, warmouth, gar and mudfish. The latter two are considered pests by most fresh-water anglers.

Florida has thousands of lakes, ponds, rivers and canals which can be fished so it would take a book to list them all. But the following are considered among the best in the state:

Up in the extreme northern part of the state you'll find Lake Seminole, which is shared by Florida and Georgia since the state line cuts through the lake. This is a top-notch lake for big black bass, bream, catfish and crappies. Just below the Jim Woodruff Dam is the Apalachicola River which is unique because it has good fishing for striped bass and good-sized sturgeon. These stripers live here all year round in fresh-water.

Going East toward the capitol – Tallahassee – we find Lake Talquin and Lake Jackson which have good fishing for big black bass and bream. Lake Jackson consistently produces big bass up to 14 and 15 pounds.

Moving still farther East toward the Atlantic Ocean, we come to the St. John's River which can be fished for black bass, bream, catfish and a few other species including a couple of sections of the river where striped bass are caught. This river is also well-known for its shad fishing during the winter months. Nearby lakes such as Crescent Lake and Lake George also have good fishing for black bass and other species.

Also nearby is the Ocala National Forest, a prime spot for camping, boating and fishing. There are many lakes, ponds and the Oklawaha River which can be fished for black bass, bream and crappies. This is Citrus Country and there are many lakes among the orange groves which can be fished around the towns of Leesburg, Eustis and Winter Garden. To the West of here is Lake Tsala Apopka which is really a chain of lakes with many miles of water which can be fished. Near the West Coast and the Gulf of Mexico is the Homosassa River which has good black bass fishing.

Going south we come to such lakes as Kissimmee, Lake Hatchineha, Lake Tohopekaliga, Lake Istokpoga - which may be hard to pronounce, but which are all good bodies of water which contain bass, bream and crappies.

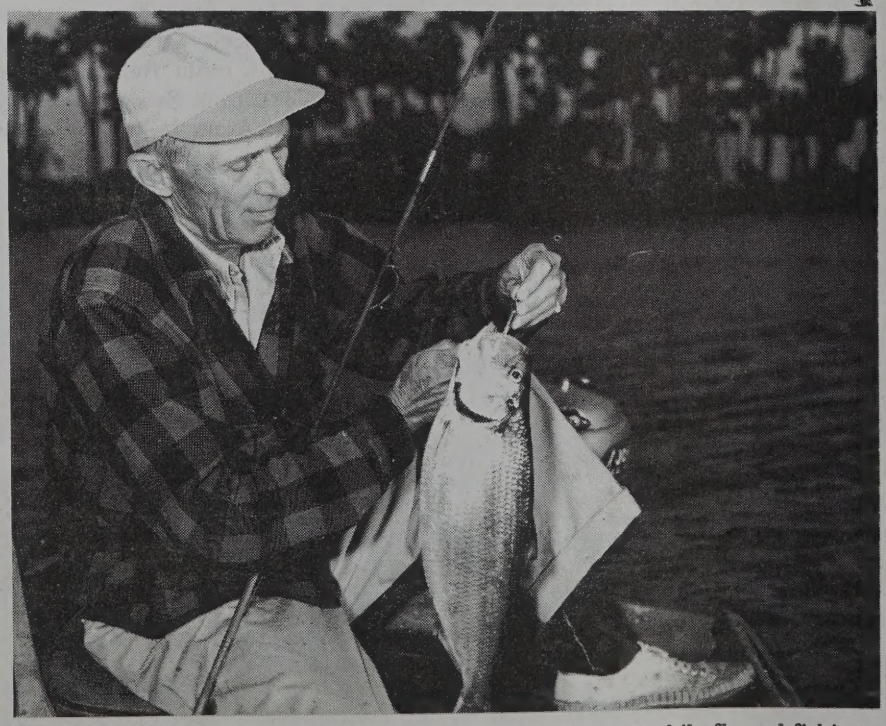
Still farther south and the biggest lake in Florida is Okeechobee which is famous for its black bass fishing and also for the crappie fishing during the winter months. Here most of the fishing is done from boats near shore or in the "rim canal" along the southern part of the lake. Casting is done in the pepper grass or "hayfields" for bass.

When we come to South Florida we find the best fresh-water fishing in the Loxahatchee basin and the conservation areas just west of the East Coast and running from Palm Beach south to Fort Lauderdale. Here you'll find thousands of acres and miles of shallow sawgrass water and canals which can be fished for bass and panfish.

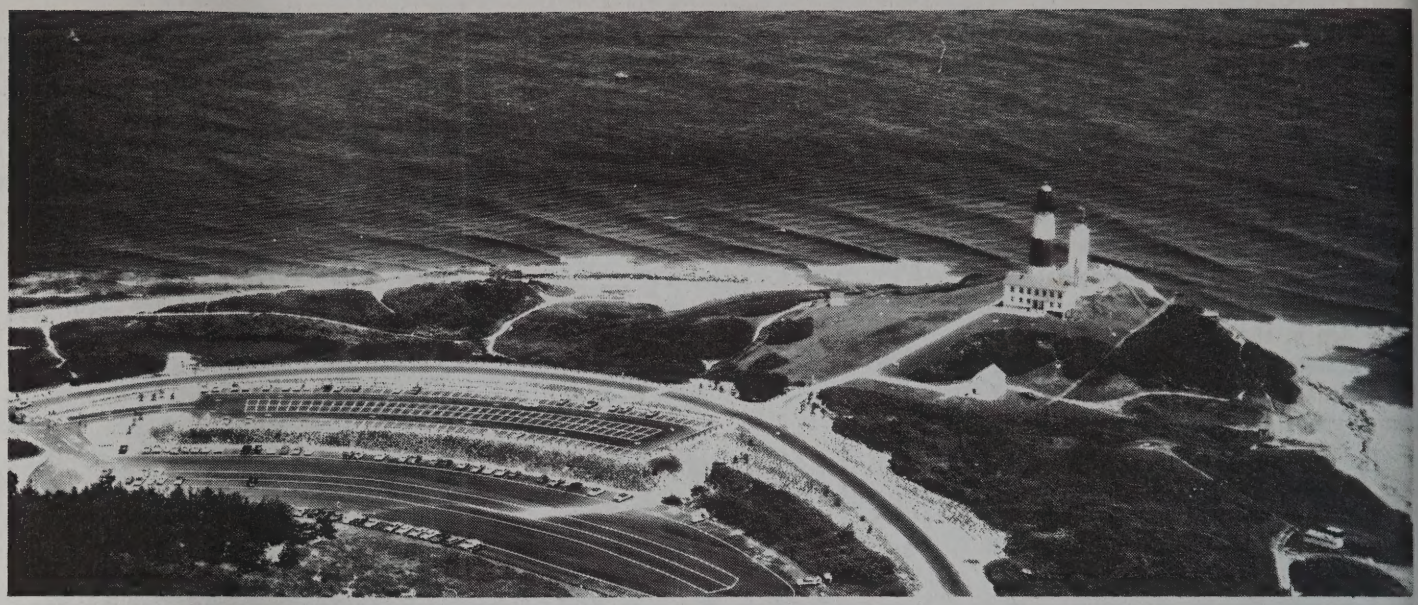
In this area you'll also find the modern highway called Alligator Alley running from Fort Lauderdale to Naples and Paralleling canals which can be fished from shore or boats. Somewhat similar fishing is found along Tamiami Trail which runs west of Miami.

All in all, the fresh-water angler in Florida will find a real Fisherman's Paradise with a wide choice of lakes, ponds, ribers and canals to fish all over the state. A car-top boat and small outboard motor will enable such anglers to fish most of these waters. Or as mentioned earlier, you can rent boats and motors at many fishing spots.

Crappies, called "speckled perch" in Florida, are caught in many lakes and canals in the state during the winter months. Florida News Bureau Photo



Angler Bill Bevis unhooks a fine specimen of shad he caught while fly rod fishing on Florida's St. John's River near Sanford. Florida News Bureau Photo



ONE SURFMAN'S MONTAUK SUMMARY: 1972

by TED SHAINE

THIS IS TO SHARE some preliminary observations about Montauk which I studied this summer, fall and spring. I started my season at Shinnecock Inlet on April 29th with small bass on small Kastmasters. I commuted back and forth from my weekend house in Montauk to Shinnecock until the end of May. When looking at the surf from the Montauk cliffs I saw my first terns of the year working the water. No fish. But I somehow knew that bass should be giving Montauk more meaning to me in a week or less.

I began visiting the North Bar, casting, looking, smelling. Nothing at the Bar on June 9th. But under the lighthouse, beautiful water. Birds out in the rip, two other fishermen with me (about 1/10th of the crowd during the fall). The Atom Jr. and 42 lbs. of bass. This is Montauk! And I was full of expectation for the months ahead. I fished and learned about the rich area that stretches from the reef in front of the Terrace Motel to the coves called Dunlap's and Deadman's in Ditch Plains. During the summer months of late July and August I walked this stretch and was almost always rewarded by something before it got too light in the A.M. and just as the last light faded at dusk.

Under the Light at Montauk, where Ted got his 42 pounder (as shown Issue No. 50, Dec. '72). Photo by Vince G.

Not big fish but welcome ones in what was supposed to be the doldrums of summer.

In looking back the only dead months for me at Montauk were late June and July. No spring run, but occasional big fish in the 30's. No summer run of bluefish as last year. And all season in the surf at Montauk, not a glimpse of a weakfish.

So it came time for my vacation and I chose the last two weeks of September and the first of October and, "all hell broke loose," to quote a local fisherman whom I found in the storm of Wednesday, September 20. The second big blow of September and it was like wall to wall bass. And because it was in the mid-week you could count the fishermen from the lighthouse to the North Bar on your both hands.

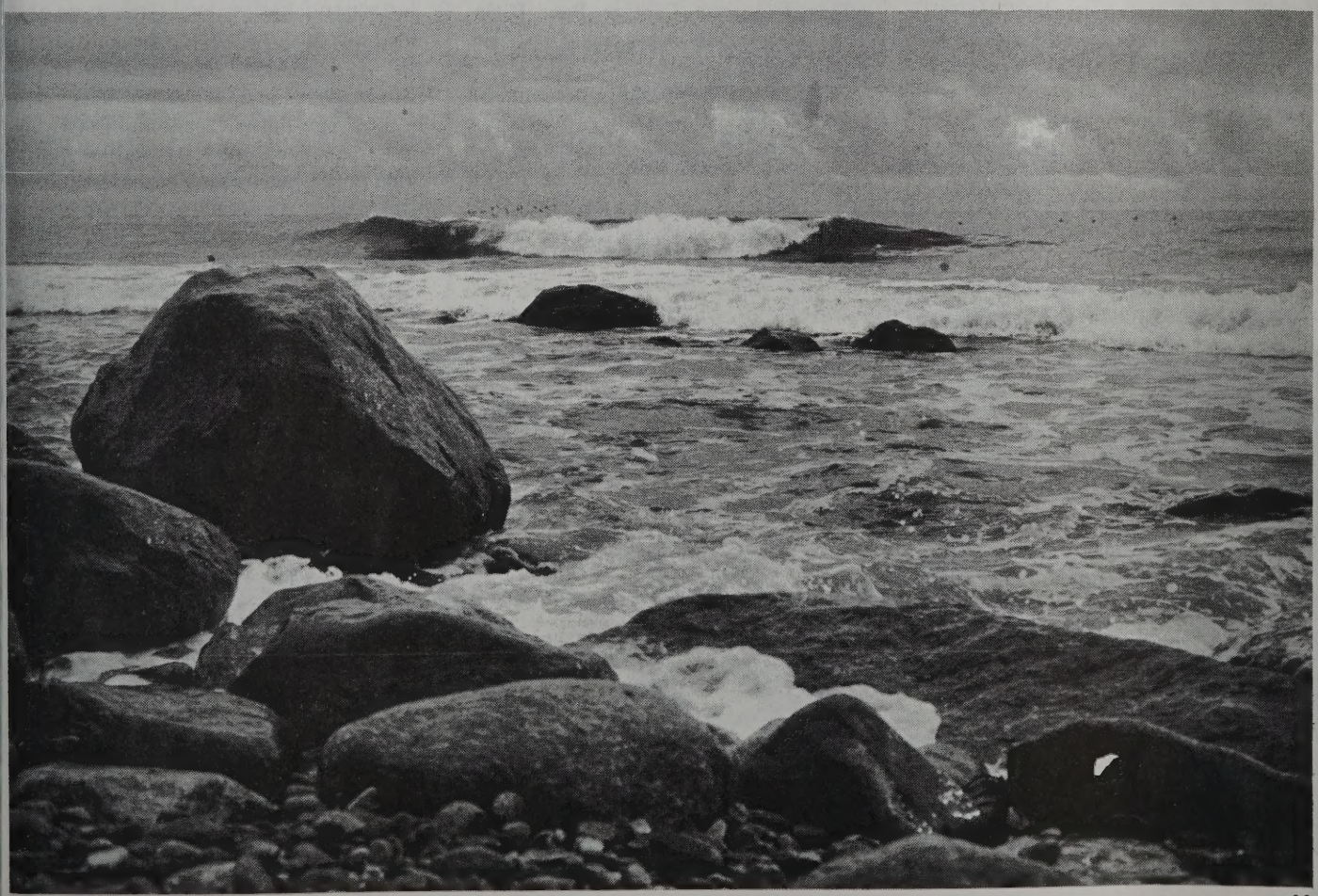
Bonanza! And I couldn't do a thing right. I dropped more fish in two days than I had in my life. It was like Dunkin' Donuts. Hook 'em, play 'em, dunk 'em. Goodbye! Good fish to 15 or 20 lbs. Thus began the most superstitious week in my life. Maybe it was the hat I was wearing? Or the color of wader suspenders? Maybe I should chew two pieces of gum instead of one while fishing? So Friday came and the crowds came and the blitz is over, and the local guys are laughing because the pattern of fish is on Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday, and the no-fish pattern on Friday-Saturday-Sunday is starting again. I show up at Scott's Hole, red suspenders, three pieces of gum in my mouth so I can hardly breathe and a hooded sweatshirt and no hat. Hundreds of guys fishing in dead calm water. No fish. I make one cast, two casts, boom! A respectable and sanity-retaining 11 pounder. I make 98 new enemies and go home. The jinx is off.

Well September and October and early November were good to me. Lots of fish to tag and release when your hands weren't too cold. A Monday morning that saw me all alone on Jones Reef surrounded by working gulls and fish at my knees. Nobody around. I kept turning, waiting for the beach buggies to start colliding with each other. It was worth getting back to Manhattan to work late that Monday morning.

But even that morning previously you could see the birds working over fish way out off the point. Very far out. Bypassing Long Island. And you could talk to the old timers and know that it was a bad year. No spring run to speak of and a fall run that never reached its peak and fizzled. And you heard of netters taking 6,000 pounds of bass while surfcasting friends of mine could only move aside and watch. Or not move aside and be pushed aside.

So for me it was another year for learning and finding new places to fish in Montauk. And the next year I'll look for new places to fish underneath the old places I found this year. Fishing out there you have to be like a detective on the beaches. A little information here, a little there, and you look and sometimes you find fish. Sometimes just other fishermen. So it was a good year; maybe in five years it will look like a great year. I hope not. Most of the guys I spoke to were disappointed and were aware of a decline in the amount of fish, bass and blues.

But as Vince says in his inspiring column: nobody can tell for sure how 'The Professor' does at Montauk even during a year like 1972. Only The Professor could speak about that. And this would be another inspiration to me and a lot of other guys who fish the real way.



Party Boat Blues: A STUDY

by ROBERT SCHAEFER

THE SELECTION of the "right" boat is critical for the success and enjoyment of a fishing trip. The fare is too high and time too precious to leave this choice to chance. If you haven't gone through the trial and error process of trying several party boats until you have found a satisfactory one, here are some suggestions to help you pick a boat you'll be happy with on your first trip. While this procedure doesn't guarantee finding the ideal boat, it will help to eliminate the real losers.

An obvious source of information is from friends and fishing buddies. Find out what party boats they prefer and why. Next, check the fishing reports in the local newspapers and on radio programs to find out what parts of Long Island are producing good action. The L.I.F., for instance, reports the boat by name and the kind of success they are having. Negative reports, i.e., fishing not too hot, are also indicated. This should help narrow down the list of possibilities. When you finally have limited the choice to two or three boats, give them a call on the telephone. Usually, you'll speak to the Captain's wife, and I've found these ladies to be expert in their own right. Key questions to ask are:

* How much is the fare?
* What kind of bait is provided as part of the fare?
* Is there any other kind of bait that should be used and is it available near the boat dock?
* How much is the fare for children under the age of twelve?
* What time does the boat leave and return? (Your wife will be interested in the return time, especially if you're taking the kids along.)
* What food and drink are available on the boat?
* What kind of tackle do they recommend for the kind of fish you're going after - test line, size hook, etc.?
* What time should you get to the boat to insure getting a good spot?
* What location on the boat is best to fish from?
* How many mates does the boat carry?
* If you're going during the week rather than on a weekend, try to find out if one day is usually less crowded than any other - then plan your trip for that day.

Armed with this information you will have a common basis on which to compare the boats.

I ran this list of questions (you probably can think of others to suit your particular needs) past a couple of candidate party boats before selecting one for a bluefish trip. I picked one sailing from the Captree Boat Basin. The information I received over the phone was as follows:

The fare is $14 for adults and $8 for children under twelve (during the week only, full fare for everyone on weekends). The boat leaves at 7 a.m. and is usually filled by 6:20 or 6:30 on weekends, by 6:45 on weekdays. There doesn't seem to be any particular weekday when they have had less customers on board. The blues are in solid and they have had a full boat with good catches practically every day. They recommended 40 or 50 pound test line and if I didn't have the right size hook they would give me one. Rented rods and reels cost $2, including hook, sinkers, and line (some boats charge extra for these). Fishing, the skipper's wife indicated, was good from any and every place on the boat. Just last week, she said, she was out on the boat and it had been surrounded by blues that had risen to the top and people were catching them from the bow, stern, port and starboard. The boat carries four mates to help keep things running smoothly (not all boats carry this many - some I spoke to said they only had two mates).

I passed this information along to my buddy, Milt, who had given me the assignment of selecting the boat for our first bluefish trip. We were taking our sons along, each of whom is nine years old. After checking the weather reports, we agreed to go on that Wednesday, meeting on the boat at 6 a.m. and then having breakfast in the cafeteria.

The mate was the only one on the boat as we boarded it. In addition to the recommended assortment of tackle we brought hats, wind breakers, sunglasses, sun tan oil, sea sick pills (highly recommended), towels, and a gunny sack (gunny sacks were also available on the boat at a nominal cost). We placed our rods and gear in the center of the stern. This, I had been told by experienced party boat fishermen, was the most desired location. The reason was

Captree Boat Basin. A view from the bridge.

that when you fought a fish there were fewer lines to get tangled up with than if you were, for instance, mid-way on one side of the boat. When the captain came on board, I asked him if they had been catching any false albacore (see L.I.F., Vol.7, No. 31, August 17, 1972). I had brought some spearing bait with us hoping for some of that action, but he said they hadn't seen any of that species yet.

When we returned from breakfast, at about 6:30, the entire starboard side of the boat was lined with fishermen (and women) practically shoulder to shoulder. It turned out that the boat was going to drift from right to left while fishing. If people were allowed to fish from the left side then their lines would be carried under the boat as it drifted along, and when a fish was hooked the line would rub on the keel and break. Jigging with metal lures however was permitted from the left (or port) side. The Captain cast off promptly at 7 a.m. and we were under way.

As we chugged out the Fire Island Inlet the mates were busy cutting bait (butterfish) into diagonal strips, setting up chum buckets, and baiting each customers rig as it stood in the rod holder. We headed east once we were in the ocean. About 8:20 or so the skipper cut his throttles and shifted into neutral. Everyone picked up their rods in anticipation of the blues. One fisherman had a spinning outfit and he cast out a large Hopkins before the boat had lost its headway. He made his retrieve with the rod traveling through a 90° arc, rapidly and smoothly. "Fish on!" he called out, and his rod bent double. The fish, however, was off as quickly as it was on. He made another cast and again he called out, "Fish on!" This time, after a fine fight, he brought the blue alongside and the mate gaffed him. No one else had even wet their line because the captain hadn't given the order to start chumming yet.

Finally the boat was positioned properly relative to the wind, and the mates started chumming. Soon fish were being caught regularly although at sparse intervals, up and down the length of the boat. My buddy, Milt, standing next to me, hooked into one. It was his first blue and the fish turned him every way but loose. The skipper saw that he was a novice and began giving Milt directions.

"Hold your rod up! Let the rod act like a spring for the fish to work against - it helps to tire him out. If your rod is down the fish is only pulling against the drag. When he wants to run - let him - don't try to stop him and anyway you can't. So let him go and enjoy it. That's the fun of the fight. Let him go 'till he's tired and then work him in."

Aided by this course in fish-fighting given really on time, Milt landed his blue.

The skipper was tireless in his efforts to help people hook and fight fish. He stationed himself up on the wheel-house deck so that he could watch all his fares in action.

"You people on the stern," he called down, "you can't catch fish unless you work your lines! No, no, don't jig, work them, work 'em good!"

"What do you mean by 'work them'?"

"Reel up your bait. When the mate dumps some chum overboard, flip your bait out into it. Then pay out your line, letting the current carry your bait along with the chum. We're in about forty feet of water, so keep your line going until you've let out about 100 feet. Then reel in and start all over again. You can reel in quickly because almost all of your hits will come as you're letting line out. Very few hits happen on the retrieve. Work your line differently each time until you find out where the fish are. There are sinkers on that table if you want to get down deeper. But work your lines, don't just stand there holding on to them!"

This proved to be sound advice and more people began to catch fish. However, this created another problem. Once the bluefish was hooked it would take off, generally running laterally along the boat. This meant the angler had to follow the fish, trying to keep it directly in front of him, or his line would cross with all the other lines. To accomplish this the angler with a fish on his line had to pass in front of the other fishermen or lift his pole over them, depending on the relative positions of the lines. Not all the anglers were cooperative in assisting the man fighting the fish to pass around them. When this happened to me, I left my manners behind and simply shouldered my way past a person who ignored my pleas for cooperation. My son, of course, couldn't use this football technique. His blue was hooked at the stern and headed for the bow. It was rather pathetic to hear the boy, with the blue almost jerking the rod from

Continued on Pg. 23

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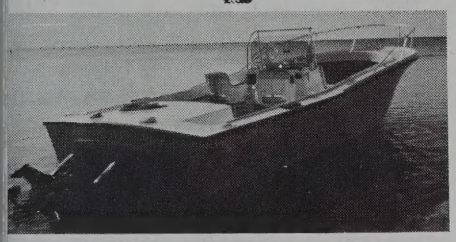

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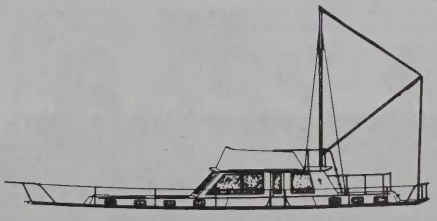
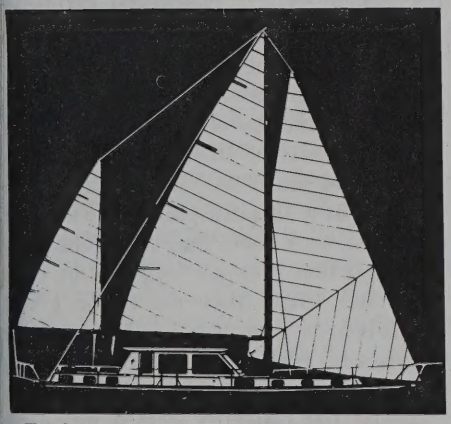
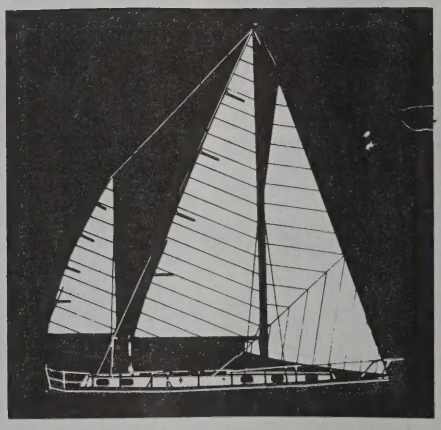


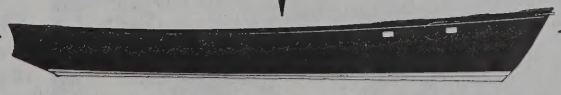
Trawler Yacht



Tri Cabin Motor Sailer



Walk-thru Motor Sailer



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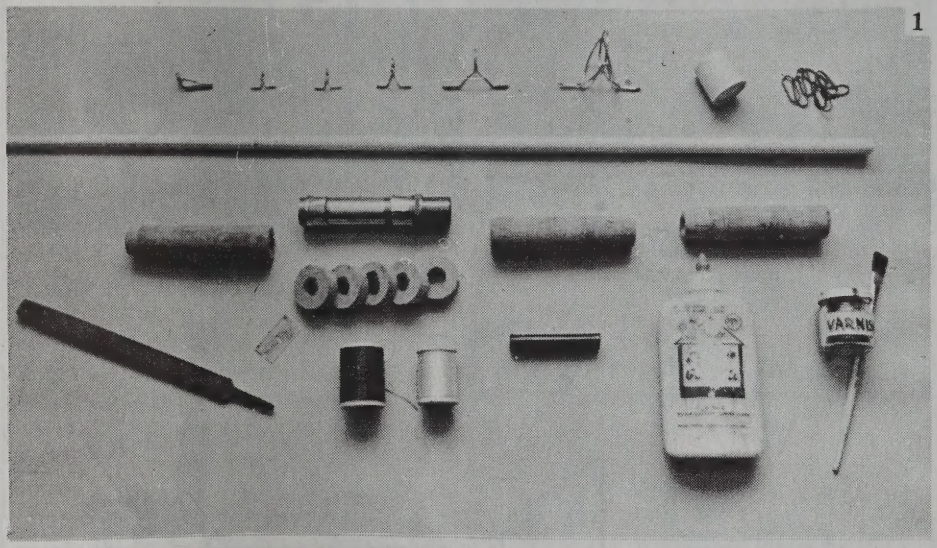
CUSTOM ROD BUILDING
Spinning Part 1

by DICK MERMON

THE TYPE of fishing rod you want to build is the thing to think of. Do you want a surf, boat (bluefish, weakfish, flounder, fluke, etc.), trolling and big game rod, bay popping, bait casting or a fly rod? Will it be spinning or conventional? Well, they are pretty much all built the same way. The only thing that changes are the butt style and the guides. I will try to cover as much as possible in the construction of the most important ones that I think you may want.

Photos by Dick Mermon



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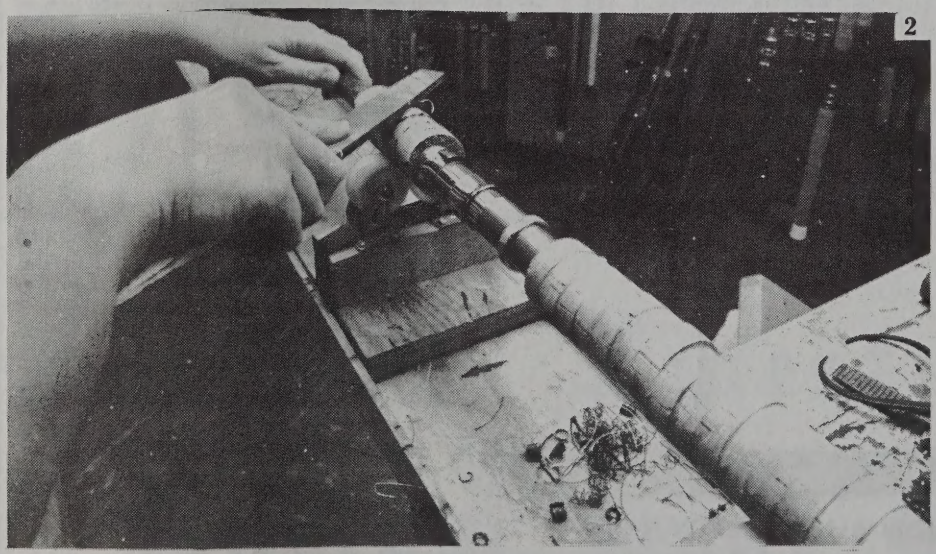
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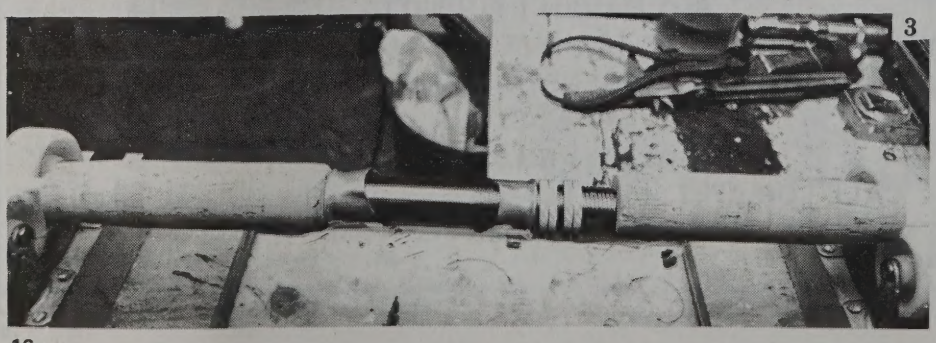
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Tackle stores sell these parts and you need a reel seat that fits the blank's thickness (in this case an 8-ft. blank); you should choose carboloy metal guides and tip top to last against line-wear (the main thing though about the fifth or biggest guide is that it should be large enough to handle a large-capacity spool so that the line on a cast does not slap against the fifth guide).

Cork or rubber-cork grips can be either the whole six-inch ones, or cork rings that get glued together. The winding thread sold nowadays is nylon.

On the rod blank, measure the amount that is to be the butt section and mark it off with a magic marker, NOT to include the fore grip. This is separate. If you use only pre-made grips, then mark off the places as to where they will be placed and where the reel seat is to go. The holes in the grips should be large enough to be able to slide down to the marks, tightly without cracking. After the sections have been marked off, take a file and file off the shine that is on the glass blank, lightly and not too deep. Just the shine has to come off. This will give the glue a chance to imbed into the glass strands and hold a better bond with the grips. Put the glue over the entire area of the one sanded spot and spread it out with your finger. Slide the grip down to the glued area and make sure that it is tight at the section. The grips are put on from the tip down to the lowest part of the butt and then worked up. If single corks are to be used, the holes of the corks should be slightly smaller than the thickness of the section it is to be placed or glued to. If you can't drill them out with a drill, then take a round file and work them that way. The main thing is that they are tight sliding onto the rod where they are to be glued. This is to be a permanent bond between glass and cork. As the corks are put on, each section or ring is glued up against the other to form a tube-type grip all the way to the reel seat mark and then the same is done the length of the reel seat. Usually the reel seat will account for about ten to twelve corks. The fore grip is not put on until the reel seat is attached. The drying time should be about 24 hours.

Attaching the reel seat to the rod blank comes next. We can look at that next week.

1 Everything that is needed to build a spinning rod.

2 Glued rings are now filed down to the size wanted.

3 Pre-made cork grips before and after the reel seat.

BOATING

DALE BROUS

"How deep is the Ocean" is a question that can be readily answered today with the advent of the electronic depth sounder. Small, inexpensive transistorized depth sounders are now well within the budget of almost every boatman. Planning the installation should be done with an eye toward easy access for servicing, and maximum performance. The electronic package/indicator should be mounted within viewing range of the helm, to give the operator the ability to turn the unit on and off without leaving his operating position. The transducer-mounting presents a considerably more complex problem. Proper transducer-installation is vital to the efficient operation of your depth sounder.

If at all possible choose a thru-the-hull type mounting. See Figure 1. Select a hull bottom location that is approximately 1/2 to 2/3s of the way back from the bow. This will assure that when underway, the transducer will always be submerged and that it will not be too close to the engines and underwater running-gear to pick up mechanical noise interference. Keep the transducer at least a foot outboard of the keel. Check inside the hull at the selected point to be sure there are no structural members that will interfere with the mounting. If your boat has anything other than a flat hull, two fairing blocks will be required to align the transducer. The object here is to make the bottom-face of the transducer point straight down. With the location determined, bore a clearance hole for the transducer neck perpendicular to the waterline and insert the cable and transducer neck. Measure the angle of deadrise in the hull at the selected location, and cut a wooden block for fairing lengthwise to fit these conditions. Bore a clearance hole in the block and cut it lengthwise to make the inner and outer blocks. The section of the block to be installed outside the boat should be streamlined in the fore and aft directions to reduce turbulence. Assemble the fairing blocks and transducer and insert into the hull. Use a good quality bedding compound, and tighten the nut on the transducer neck with a wrench. See Figure 1.

On a wood hull, if the boat has been out of the water for any length of time, tighten the hardware on the transducer only hand-tight to prevent seepage. About 10 days after launching the wood will have swelled up and the hardware can be tightened more snugly. (If we try to tighten real snugly prior to launching a wood boat that's been dry a long time, then the pressure of the swelling wood after launching can seriously damage the transducer.) Route the transducer cable up to the indicator/electronic package, keeping the cable well clear of ignition-wiring and other noise-generating machinery.

Do not cut off the excess cable; simply coil it up and store in a convenient place. The transducer will not work properly unless the face is thoroughly wet. Before using it for the first time, rub the face with liquid detergent and rinse with water. If you trailer your boat, this procedure should be followed before each launching.

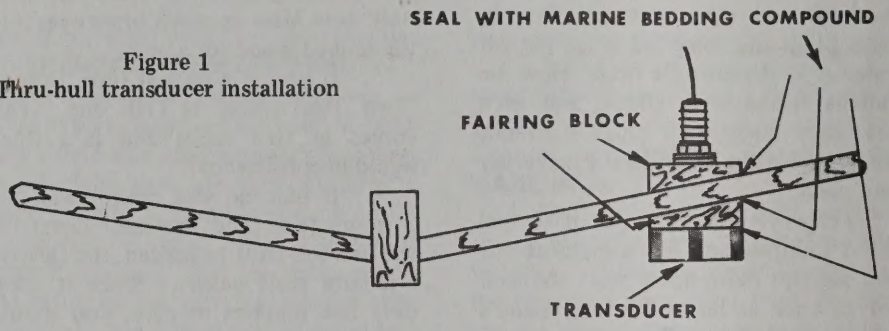

Figure 1
Thru-hull transducer installation

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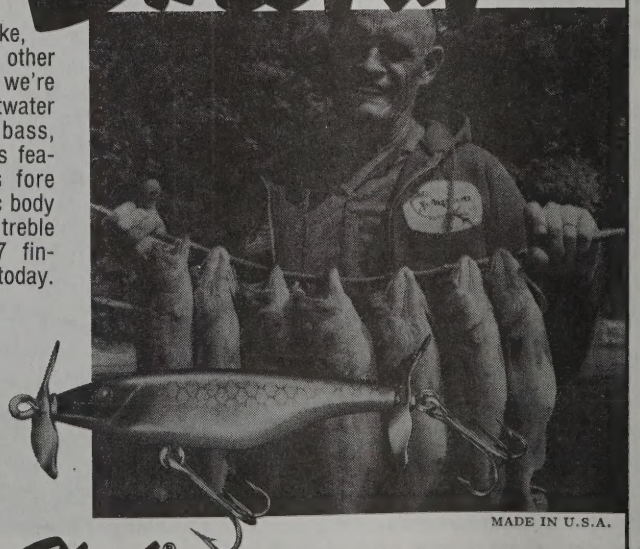

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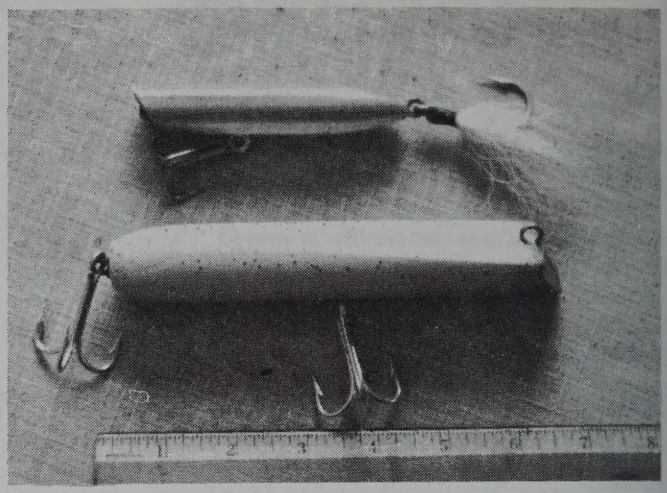
with Mike Parente and, indirectly: The Professor; and Ted Wells; and Charlie Graves; and all the unknown surfmen who never quit, and have contributed to the skills and refined the process of making our own: a thing that belongs especially to the strictly-casters amongst fishermen, beginning in fresh water.



MIKE PARENTE'S PLUGS
a popper and a darter

UNLESS I AM very much mistaken, the red men were the first to make plugs and some did it for the salt water as well as for the fresh. How the Indians fished with plugs, and even how they made their plugs I do not know. I hardly know how I make my own plugs.

However, in order for it to feel like a tradition and like something out of a perhaps more noble past: we need not go back as far as this long island's original ecologists. Plug-making I got from contemporaries on the shores, inspired especially by our Rhody surf patriarch, Ted Wells. And after my write-up 'To Tighten Your Belt?' (by making plugs), surfman Mike Parente of Brooklyn mailed me all sorts of suggestions which he later agreed should be passed on to you.

So, here is the spirit, even in these times. Even though we are not of the vanished Algonkin tribes. Mike mailed me also two examples of his plugs, and am I eager to work them!

As for suggestions, Mike was very concerned that I stress just how much of a tribal thing this is.

" . . . many ideas that I have given you were passed on to me by others who pioneered these procedures and in good conscience I could not take credit for someone else's ingenuity. Let this be clearly understood."

Catch?

Now let's go straight to the plugs. These are what Mike sent me, and he tells how hook-hangers and line-link hanger need not consist of eyescrews as I had described for my bluefish plugs (October, No. 41, 1972), nor yet need they depend on a long bit and drilling-through, as Teddy Wells and Dan Marchand do their plugs. Instead, observe diagram.

This diagram is meant to show only how Mike cements brass eyes into the shaped wood for a plug.

"If you're a patient type, Devcon 'Two Ton' epoxy is THE one. This comes in two tubes and is a thick liquid in consistency.

"If like me you cannot wait the 3 hours (like The Professor does) for the two-ton stuff to harden, the Devcon 5-minute stuff works. Since it takes only five minutes to cure, you should only mix enough for one hole at a time. You'll learn through experience in this matter as you would in any other.

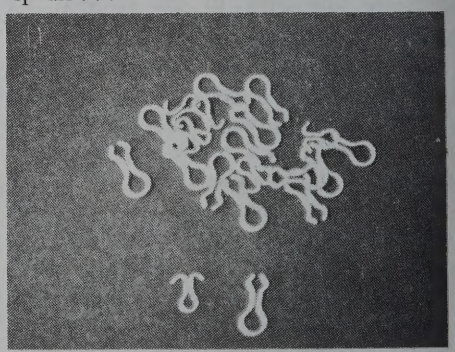
"In all honesty, I personally cannot tell the difference in strength between the two epoxies." - Both are extremely strong . . .

Mike advises: "Brass wire eyes can be obtained $2.25 a pound through Reading Instrument Co., Box 78, Reading, Pa. 19603. Same price for the extra large, heavy model; and you get 330 eyes. This is enough for 110 plugs! I imagine if you ordered any more than this, Stan Gibbs would start to worry . . To order: write the company and ask for size No. 3 eye, and also ask for their Free Catalog."

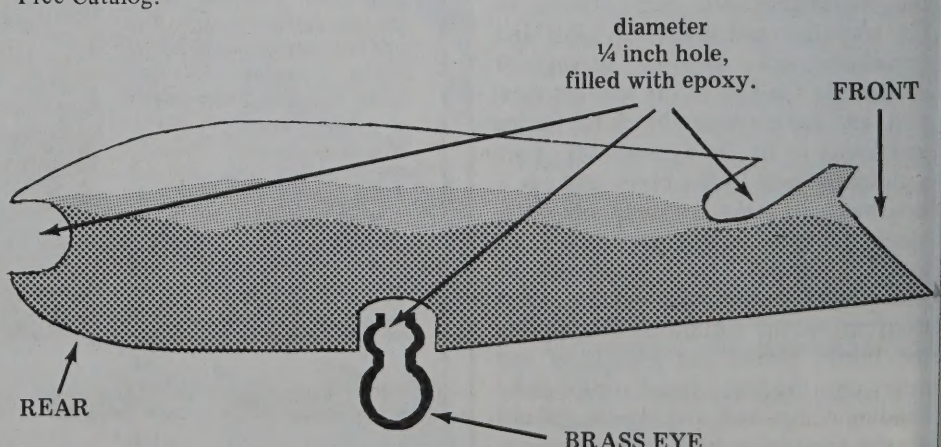
In making his plugs Mike uses simple tools. A wood rasp; hack saw; miter box; and sand paper. He also uses a power drill for drilling the holes and for sanding with a sanding attachment.

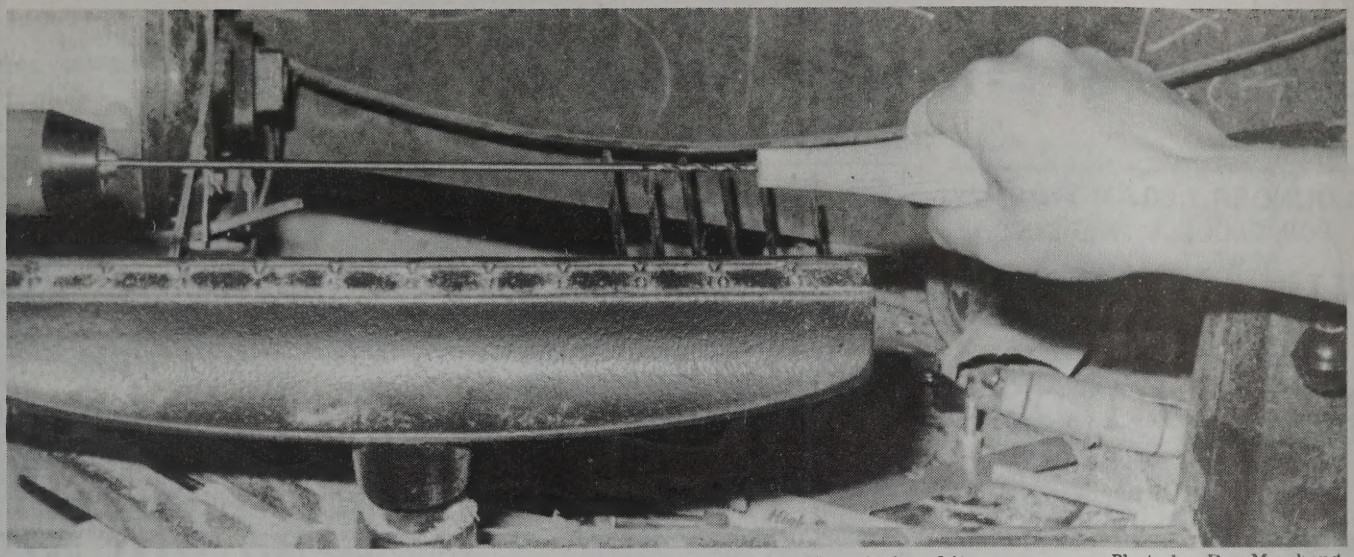
What we would like is for Mike to describe the process whereby he weights his plugs. I use lead wool (which Ted Shaine did verify is obtainable at Montauk in a plumbing supply store) soldering it into the drilled holes.

Meanwhile, any comments from The Professor? Who would not shut up and listen, if only Jack Frech would speak . . .



THE BRASS EYES MIKE SENT ME





Marchand bores through with a 1/8 inch aviation bit. Photo by Dan Marchand

Any comments from Ted Wells or Dan Marchand? They both drill-through and use wire to link with hooks.

After my secondary-type article on lesser plugs (bluefish-and big chopper-killers, for which there is a place in the tackle bag) Jim La Corte wanted to know: What kind of paint? Try Marine-Glo; Sears Acrylic Enamel; Krylon Spray Paint, GOLD (murder!); and, finding a childhood set of Grumbacher Artist Oil Paints, I use these too. Oil paints really take the salt water, plus the blues and greens touched or blended with regular outside silver paint really give a life-like coloration of mullet and mackerel and herring . . .

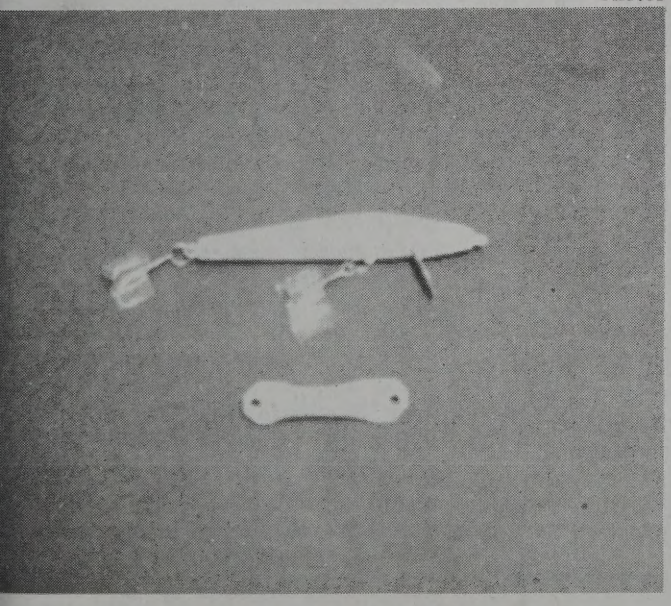
Remember that a plug's action is the most important thing, but there are times when even the coloration had to be life-like. Other conditions: bare wood if swimming, would plug 'em . . . Our expert rigged-eel surfman Al Bentsen offers also that neon-bright colors, psychedelic tints are very effective to raise a big bass from the bottom on the right day or night. (So, it is not on rigged eels only that Al sticks pigs?) Anyway, before painting, (as per Mike Parente): use a base coat of wood sealer, then spray and finish the lure with varnish. -"The Professor says he soaks the plug for 1½ - 2 minutes in linseed oil, then lets it stand overnight. The next day he sprays it and that's the end." - In other words, The Professor spends more time and takes more care than Mike Parente. Me? Damn, I never even thought about sealing the wood!

Closing one of his generous letters, good Mike Parente says: "You and I get sick at the use of boats, and bait. I know they produce. But I cannot MAKE them."

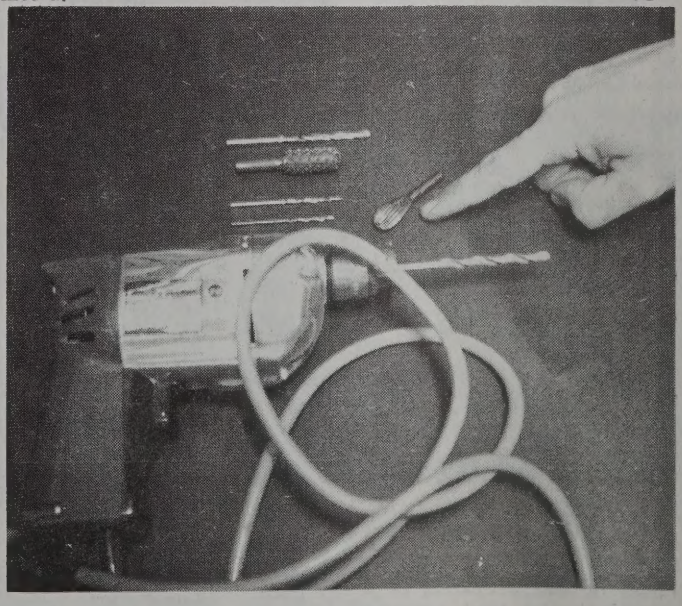
How I wish that at least some of the crowds of weekend-skippers on the waters could find that particular love in building their own wood BOATS; like the old days and like even in Brooklyn when I was a boy . . . WOOD, the organic stuff that your hand belongs with. It does not pollute the seas and human flesh like the manufacture of plastic.

(Yes, the same goes for casting rods. But please: no wooden reels!)

Photos by Vince G.



A neat 4 inch swimmer by Ted Wells. Teddy makes the weight too. Out of auto metal, with lead. This is linked by gut leader to the plug for casting.



Some readers asked previously how I got that upwards-angled hollow in the head of my poppers. I'm pointing at the attachment.

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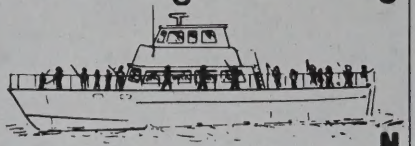
Marty Liss poses with mate John Rade and codfish of 36 and 53 lbs., caught aboard the "Viking Star." Capt. Paul Forsberg said, "Fishing is pretty good at the present time. Anywhere from 125 to 500 cod are taken daily. Pollack and big blackfish averaging 6 to 12 lbs. are being caught also."

Cod — Big Whiting



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MONTAUK

Capt. Les Behan of the "Peconic Queen II" reported that the fishing was very good during the week. "There were plenty of fish for everyone." Saturday was a bad day. The weather wouldn't cooperate; very high winds. On Sunday the fishing was good once again. The pool fish was a 45 pounder, caught by Mr. P. Stowell of Roosevelt, L.I. He had six fish, all over 20 lbs. All of this action took place at the Cartwright Grounds.

****

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65 Ft. Open Boat
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YANKEE 65 Ft. CHARTER BOAT
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CAPT. BOB PATAFIO (516) 798-4551

FREEPORT

Capt. Marty Dombrowski gave us the following report. The "Blue Fin" found that the area south of the Whistler Buoy, in about 55 ft. of water, was your best bet. Marty and Sy had the Valley Stream Fire Department on board. The anglers had cod to 15 lbs. and some whiting. There is some nice blackfishing at the wreck and at Buoy 4. Cholera Banks also has its share of blacks to 5 lbs., however, none of the anglers wanted to fish for them.

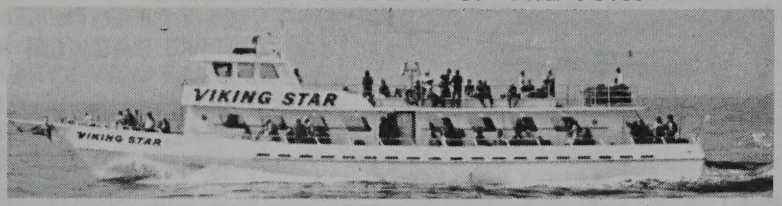
****

SANDY HOOK

Capt. Bunting of the "Sea Horse" reported that fishing at Ambrose is very good. The whiting average 1½ to 2 lbs. with some going to 4 lbs. The Sea Horse had to anchor in the morning but later in the day was able to drift. The anglers averaged up to 50 fish. Clam and herring were used as bait. The anglers also had about a half dozen mackerel, which they also used for bait.

MONTAUK OPEN and CHARTER BOATS

Montauk's Viking Fleet
FISH THE MOST MODERN ON THE COAST



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During the week, at the B.A. Buoy and the Mud Hole, anglers did very well on the whiting. This is in about 150 ft. of water.

****

MANASQUAN

Capt. Bogan of the "Jamaica" reported that the fishing has been good all week. The cod are small; 8 to 10 lbs. are the larger fish. Most of the cod average 1 to 4 lbs. The best areas to fish would be the rock and mussel grounds around the Mud Hole, and the Mud Hole itself. Some nice whiting are taken there.

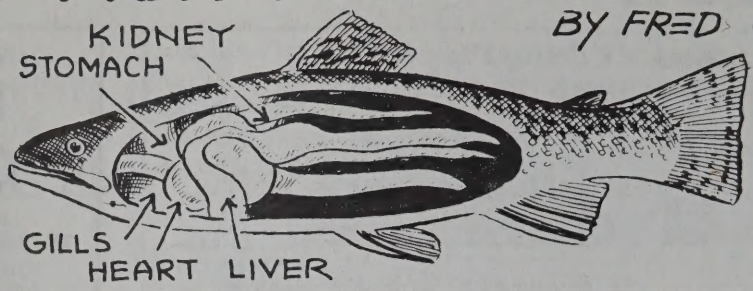
****

Here is a photo of William Zuchowski and Anita Cznadel with a nice catch of bluefish. These Long Islanders spent their Xmas vacation fishing at Cape Hatteras, N.C. They caught bass and blues.

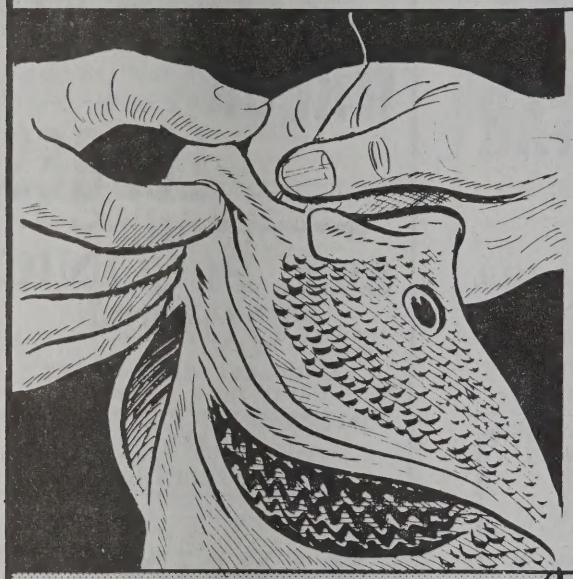
SAVING FISH FOR ANOTHER DAY

BY FRED GUARDINEER

THE VITAL ORGANS OF A FISH ARE LOCATED JUST BEHIND THE HEAD WHERE A DEEP SWALLOWED HOOK CAN PROVE FATAL IF RIPPED OUT.

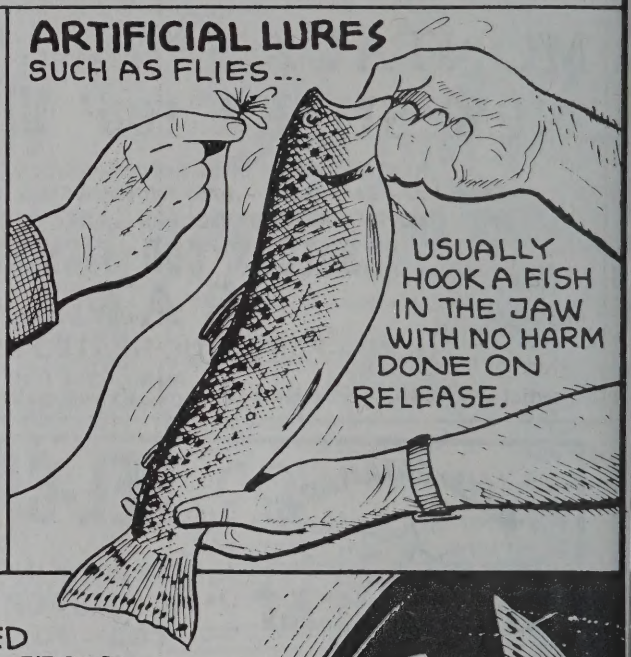


HOOKS ARE THE CHEAPEST ITEM IN THE TACKLE BOX. BEST WAY TO RELEASE A FISH IS TO CUT THE LEADER, THE HOOK WILL DISINTEGRATE.



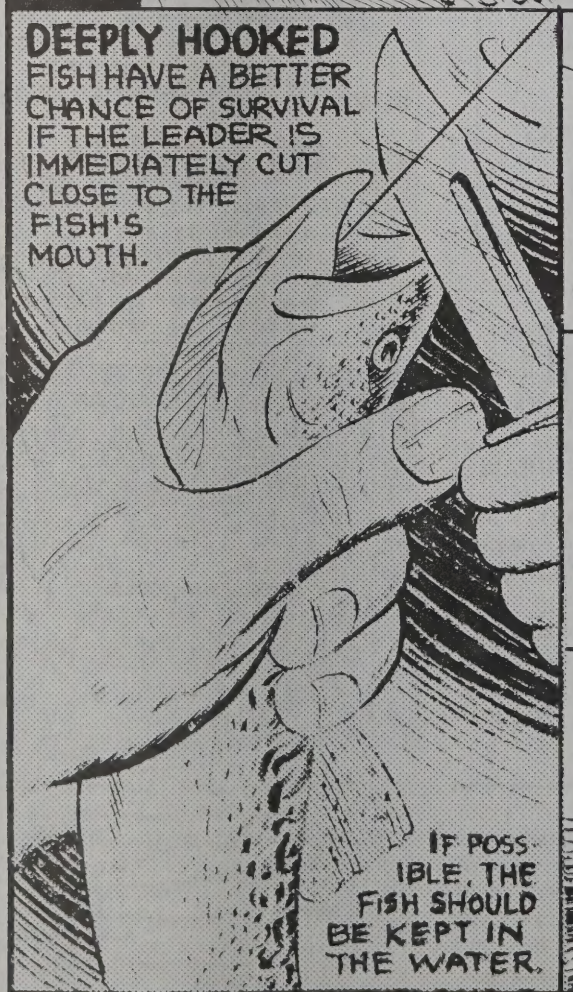
BLACK BASS CAN BE HELD BY THE LOWER JAW FOR GOOD CONTROL WHILE THE HOOK IS BEING REMOVED. 70% OF DEEP HOOKED FISH DIE SOON AFTER REMOVAL OF THE HOOK.

ARTIFICIAL LURES SUCH AS FLIES...



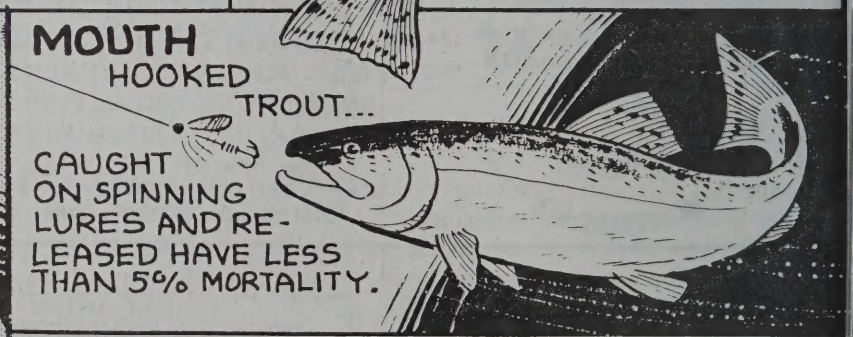
USUALLY HOOK A FISH IN THE JAW WITH NO HARM DONE ON RELEASE.

DEEPLY HOOKED FISH HAVE A BETTER CHANCE OF SURVIVAL IF THE LEADER IS IMMEDIATELY CUT CLOSE TO THE FISH'S MOUTH.



IF POSSIBLE, THE FISH SHOULD BE KEPT IN THE WATER.

MOUTH HOOKED TROUT...

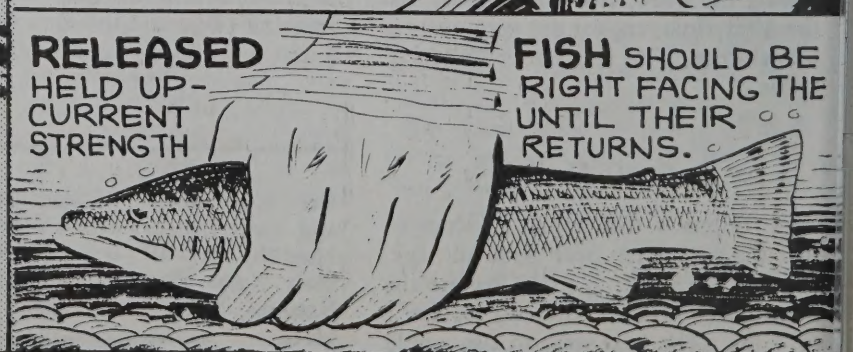


CAUGHT ON SPINNING LURES AND RELEASED HAVE LESS THAN 5% MORTALITY.

LONG-NOSED PLIERS, SURGEON'S HEMOSTATS, JAW SPREADERS AND LONG BARRELLED HOOK REMOVERS ARE ALL USEFUL.

RELEASED HELD UP-CURRENT STRENGTH

FISH SHOULD BE RIGHT FACING THE UNTIL THEIR RETURNS.



Continued from Pg. 12

his hands, saying to an angler who was blocking his way: "Please, sir, can I get by?" - and watch the "sportfisherman" remain immobile. It wouldn't have interfered with this guy's fishing if he had taken a step back and let the boy through. As a result of this insensitivity to the boy's plight, he got his line fouled with about five or six fish-less lines and lost his blue.

Some of these "sports" then complained to the captain that the boy was too young for this kind of fishing and the blues were too much for him to handle. The captain agreed, which I suppose was the diplomatic thing for him to do. On the other hand, the captain didn't mention anything like that when he collected the boy's eight dollar fare. This non-cooperative attitude of anglers who were not in the process of fighting a fish towards those who were doing battle prevailed despite the predictable results of tangled lines. It's rather stupid but that's what kept happening. The skipper did his best by shouting at offenders to move and let the man pass, but by and large, no one gave an inch to the man fighting the fish. I can't figure out why. These people seemed rooted to their spots and weren't going to abandon them even for an instant.

The mates were competent and cooperative. In addition to gaffing fish, removing the hook, cutting bait, and replacing lost line on customers reels, they were also kept busy untangling fouled lines. The hot action had occurred between noon and one o'clock. By two o'clock things had really slowed down. The mates did some fishing then, and I didn't see any reason for them not to. These guys had really put in a hard day, dealing with petty complaints from the fares and trying to assist some truly incompetent anglers . . . The fish caught were 6-10 pounders; the pool was taken by a 13 pounder.

We headed back to Captree at about 2:45, arriving there at 4 p.m. During the run back the mates set up a production line on the stern, cleaning, washing, and packaging the fish in plastic bags. The fish were cleaned as desired by the angler, and the fee for this service was entirely reasonable.

What a clean, comfortable boat this was, run by a hard-working knowledgeable crew. Comments made by our fellow passengers indicate that this could not be said of all party boats. The selection process that I employed, in this case, had worked well.

When we arrived home, my wife was impressed by the size of our fish. Economy minded housewife that she is, she figured out that our fish had cost about $1 per pound, whereas if she had bought them in the local supermarket they would have cost about .79¢ per pound. The logic of her calculations are irrefutable. But then, she's not a fisherman.

BOATING COURSES

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 13-1 will present an instruction course on small boat handling at East Meadow High School, beginning January 25, 1973 and continuing for twelve weeks thereafter, at 8:00 P.M. every Thursday evening. Subjects covered are seamanship, rules of the road, charts and compass, and knots and splices. The program is directed toward encouraging new and old boating enthusiasts of both sexes, 16 years of age and over, to learn the fundamentals of safety. This is the official course presented under the direct supervision of the U.S. Coast Guard.

Boating courses offered elsewhere by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary are as follows:

At the Bayside Yacht Club, registration : February 7, 14, and 21 at 7:30 P.M. Phone Commander J. Goetz at (212) BA 4-0674 after 6 P.M. (Do not phone Bayside Yacht Club.)

Baldwin/Freeport. Write Mrs. R. Michaeltree, P.E. Officer, 220 Duck Pond Rd. South, Wantagh, N.Y. 11793.

U.S.C.G. Auxiliary Flotilla 19-2 of Northport, N.Y. is offering a 12 lesson Boating Safety & Seamanship Course. The course will be held in the cafeteria (at the south end) of the Northport Jr. High School on Laurel Ave., Northport, N.Y. Registration begins at 8:00 P.M. on January 22, 1973. Some of the subjects covered will be charts and compass, marine engines, radio telephone, weather, ropes and knots, boat handling and safety, and legal aspects of boating. This course is open to all. Bring the family and learn together. Fishermen come and learn to read charts and find new fishing spots. "Old salts" find out what is new or take a refresher course. New boatmen learn what is involved in operating that new boat that you want. An informed boater and the United States Coast Guard says, "Safe Boating is no Accident."

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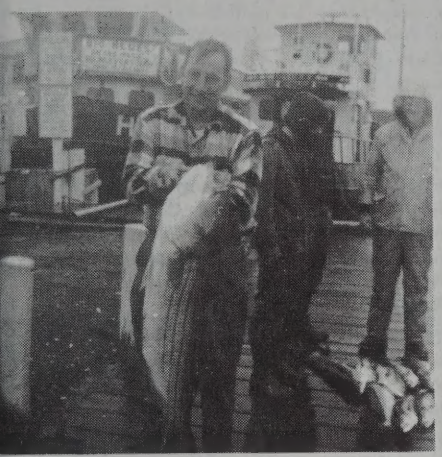
Continued from Pg. 7

So Jim Berger you are right and the editors agree with all your letter's points. We are also glad that both you and Charlie Gauss agree with us on the most important things - conservation.

51½ POUND STRIPER



Dear Sir:

I am submitting this photo in hopes that you will put it in your weekly.

After thirty years I caught a striped bass over 50 lbs. on Nick Kuzin's boat, the Tiger Shark, out of Montauk on 11/8/72 . . . on an umbrella rig. I also won the cup donated by Nick Kuzin for the biggest striper of the year on his boat.

Thomas F. Walsh
Kings Park, N.Y.

SHARE EXPENSES?

Dear Mr. Reina,

I would like to know if you could put a small line in your paper for me.

I am 57 years of age - don't drive a car - would like a companion in the Ozone Park-Howard Beach area who does drive. My days off are Thursday and Friday. I would be more than willing to pay for any expenses to be shared. I fish salt or fresh water, party boat, surf, rowboat or any kind of fishing that is going. My phone number is 848-8736. I work nights for the New York Times. I have been a subscriber to your L.I.F. for over 4 years.

I hope I am not inconveniencing you.

Yours respectfully,
Walter Werner

DON'T STOP AT STRIPERS

Dear Mr. Reina:

Keep up the good work with L.I.F., it's a great paper. Enclosed you will find some clippings which may be of interest to you.

What I am really writing you about at this time regards information which I feel all concerned fishermen should have at their disposal. My reference is to an article found on page fourty four of the November/December issue of Fishing World entitled, "Twilight For American Fisheries." There will be found some alarming facts about all of our fishing futures. Fight for our friends the striped bass but do not stop here. If all are not made fully aware of what is happening off of our shores, and close; and if all of us, fishermen and non-fishermen do not act quickly to increase the fishing limit from twelve to two hundred miles for foreign fishing fleets, we might just as well be prepared to permanently discard our fishing gear and take up the game of checkers.

I notice on page twenty six of issue 49 of L.I.F. of your notice. This is a step in the right direction but I feel that as many as can, obtain a copy of the magazine previously mentioned of the issue mentioned and read Al Ristori's article. Then - ACT QUICKLY.

Friend of L.I.F.
William A. Steele, Sr.
New York, N.Y.

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CLUB NEWS

On December 13, 1972 the election of the Executive Board of the Bay Ridge Rod & Gun Club took place. The following members were elected: President, Arni Ellertsen; Vice President, Frank Donnelly; Recording Secretary, W. Bergquist; Treasurer, R. Erickson; Exec., P. Zeidler; Sgt. at Arms, B. Davis. The Bay Ridge Rod & Gun Club has built and is operating the largest pistol and small bore range in Kings County. "We have 21 points to fire from, and are opened only to NRA affiliated clubs.

North Brookhaven Sport Fishermen's Club, Inc. is holding their 1973 dinner-dance at the VFW Hall in Rocky Point on January 27. Tom's Original Schooner of Port Jeff is the caterer . . . . . Re-elected President of N.B.S.F.C. was Dan Marchand, and Neil Buchler Vice-President. Amongst others, Andre Peyroune was elected to the post of Trustees . . . . . The Club welcomes Ives Morris and plug-maker Larry Kohn of Mt. Sinai ..... Bob Pond is coming to the NBSFC February meeting to show a film "full of striper action caught on his (Atom) plugs . . . . .

The All American Skindivers, Inc.: "Greetings for the New Year to all our fellow Long Islanders and lovers of the marine environment . . ." All may attend bi-monthly meetings (first and third Wednesday of every month) at Central Skindivers, Merrick Road, Bellemore, L.I. "Upcoming winter activities will include many professionally made motion pictures (including Jacques Cousteau episodes). No charge for films shown at regular meetings. For further

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JEEP - FREE AM-FM radio, Carson & Scudder, Long Island's oldest AMC Jeep Dealer will install AM-FM radio free of charge in all new Jeep veh. sold in the month of Jan. CARSON & SCUDDER, 60 New York Ave., Huntington, N.Y. — (516) HA 7-0270.

TRAILER HITCHES the most complete Draw Tite line of Class 1 and II Hitches in stock or L.I. Sales, Installations, Service, TOM CASH WELDING, Lk. Ronkonkoma. (516) JU 8-614

CRAB TRAPS (Commercial type): Build you own, using easily available materials. Send fo simple to follow plans. Only $2.00 check cash or money order. Kensington Manor, 78-1 138th St., Kew Gardens Hills, N.Y. 11367

info : Mr. R. Nelson, after 6 P.M., at (212) 463-7187 . . . . .

The Roosevelt Fishing Club of New Rochelle, N.Y. recently elected Joe Savino as President.

Tournament Anglers of Bellmore, L.I. announces a dinner and dance to be held at the Manor East. Awards to be given for fish including a 21 pound Pollack; a 245 pound Mako Shark; and an 18 pound, 4 ounce Bluefish . . . . .

Ron Pierce, Secretary of the Wolverine Sportsmans Club, proudly announces its Fourth Annual Open House to be held at the American Legion Hall, 916 Montauk Hwy., East Islip on February 2 at 8 P.M. The making of umbrella rigs will be demonstrated; all types of duck decoys will be displayed; shell loading will be demonstrated; movies will be shown. Plus other activities. So why not enjoy a free night with us? For further information, Ron can be reached at 226-7867.

The Babylon Tuna Club offering lectures, an 8 course outline, 8 P.M. Tuesdays : Fishing School; registration Tuesday, February 6, 1973. Basic Fishing. Bay Fishing. Stripers; Shark Tuna; Marlin; Cod; Care & Repair o Equipment.

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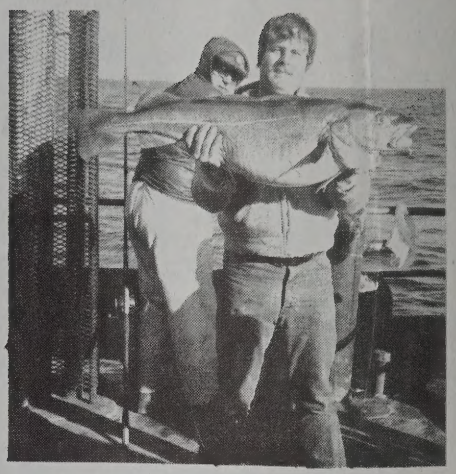
John Palmeri (now retired), of the White Plains Gun & Tackle Shop, shows a 25 lb. wahoo and a 10 lb. king mackerel which he caught on light spinning tackle while fishing from his 16' skiff out of Palm Beach Inlet. John said, "I've been trying for 20 years to land a wahoo, and I've finally done it."

Edward O'Lano of Mt. Ephriam, N.J. and his 44 lb. cod, taken aboard the "Peconic Queen II" on 1/14/73. Ed also had 21 other fish.



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TIDES: SOUTH SHORE
SANDY HOOK STATION

DAY	A.M.	P.M.
Thur.		
Fri.	12:16	12:24
Sat.	1:02	1:12
Sun.	1:53	2:07
Mon.	2:49	3:09
Tues.	3:48	4:16
Wed.	4:46	5:11
Thur.	5:35	6:00
	6:20	6:42

	H.	M.
MANASQUAN	-0	12
STATEN ISLAND	+0	07
ROCKAWAY INLET	0	00
Bergen Beach	+0	29
J.F.K. Airport	+0	26
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	-0	06
Long Beach Bridge	+0	19
JONES INLET	-0	19
Loop Pkwy. Bridge	+0	25
Zachs Bay	+1	25
Gilgo Island	+2	25
Seaford Harbor	+2	05
FIRE ISLAND INLET	-0	38
West Great South Bay	+2	10
Heckscher State Park	+3	20
East Great South Bay	+3	44
MORICHES INLET	-0	56
Smiths Point	+3	28
Harts Cove	+1	30
Potuak Point	+3	35
SHINNECOCK INLET	-0	50
East Quogue	+2	45
Shinnecock Canal	+1	18
Indian Reservation	+3	05

TIDES: L.I. SOUND
WILLETS POINT STATION

DAY	A.M.	P.M.
Thur.		
Fri.	3:53	4:19
Sat.	4:54	5:30
Sun.	6:01	6:45
Mon.	7:05	7:50
Tues.	8:06	8:44
Wed.	8:53	9:29
Thur.	9:36	10:10
	10:11	10:43

	H.	M.
Little Neck Bay	-0	10
Execution Light	-0	06
Manhasset Bay	-0	01
Hempstead Harbor	-0	11
City Island	-0	03
Rye Beach	-0	28

TIDES: L.I. SOUND
BRIDGEPORT STATION

DAY	A.M.	P.M.
Thur.		
Fri.	3:43	4:09
Sat.	4:34	5:05
Sun.	5:30	6:03
Mon.	6:29	7:03
Tues.	7:25	7:58
Wed.	8:17	8:49
Thur.	9:05	9:34
	10:14	10:40

	H.	M.
Lloyd Point	+0	08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0	08
Bayville Bridge	+0	13
Eatons Neck Point	+0	03
Northport Bay	+0	03
Norwalk Islands	+0	10
Smithtown Bay	-0	03
Cranes Neck Point	+0	05
Port Jeff Harbor	+0	03
New Haven Harbor	-0	08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0	08
Herod Point	-0	07
Mattituck Inlet	+0	19
Horton Point	-0	20
Truman Beach	-0	42

TIDES: B.I. SOUND
NEW LONDON STATION

DAY	A.M.	P.M.
Thur.		
Fri.	2:06	2:26
Sat.	2:59	3:27
Sun.	3:58	4:26
Mon.	4:54	5:23
Tues.	5:41	6:15
Wed.	6:26	7:02
Thur.	7:09	7:41
	7:48	8:20

	H.	M.
Orient Point	+0	27
Connecticut River	+1	10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0	12
Greenport	+1	04
Southold	+1	43
New Suffolk	+2	26
South Jamesport	+2	32
Shinnecock Canal	+2	33
Noyack Bay	+2	05
Sag Harbor	+0	59
Gardiners Bay	+0	21
Promised Land (Napeague)	-0	14
Fort Pond Bay	-0	29
Montauk Inlet	-0	25
Montauk Point	-1	13

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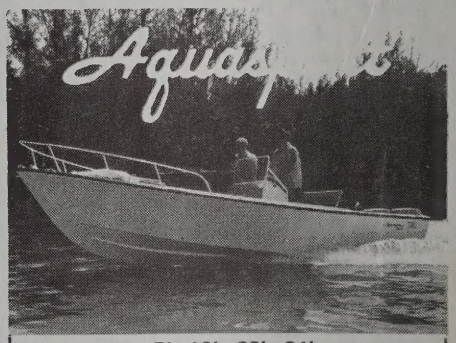

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